



# Town of Groton, Connecticut

## Meeting Agenda

### Town Council

45 Fort Hill Road  
Groton, CT 06340-4394  
Town Clerk (860)441-6640  
Town Manager (860)441-6630

*Mayor Harry A. Watson, Councilors Peter J. Bartinik, Jr., Heather Sherman Bond, Catherine Kolnaski,  
Frank O'Beirne, Jr., John F. Scott, Paulann H. Sheets, James L. Streeter, and Elissa T. Wright.*

Tuesday, March 07, 2006

7:30 PM

Town Hall Annex - Community Room 1

### REGULAR MEETING

#### I. ROLL CALL

#### II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

#### III. RECOGNITION, AWARDS & MEMORIALS

#### IV. CITIZENS' PETITIONS, COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

This is the portion of the Council Agenda where the Council welcomes comments from citizens. Each presentation should be limited to ten minutes or less, and citizens should, if possible, submit written comments. Presentations should be related to matters pertinent to Groton. Town Councilors will only ask questions in order to clarify the speaker's presentation and can respond during the Responses to Citizens' Petitions portion of the Town Council meeting. Citizens should make their presentations from the lectern and state their names and addresses for the record.

#### V. RESPONSES TO CITIZENS' PETITIONS, COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

#### VI. CONSENT CALENDAR

All matters listed under Item VI (Consent Calendar) are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion. No separate discussion of these items will take place, unless cause is shown prior to the time Council votes on the motion to adopt.

##### a. Approval of Minutes

2006-0067 Approval of Minutes (Town Council)

Resolution - Consent

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Town Council Meeting of February 21, 2006 are hereby accepted and approved.

##### b. Deletions from the Town Council Referral List

2004-0288	2005 Revaluation - Update	Referral
2006-0047	Chelsea Groton Foundation Grant - Tercentennial Legacy Playground	Referral
2006-0048	Connecticut Municipal Consortium for Fiscal Responsibility	Referral
2006-0058	Summer Food Service Program (2006)	Referral
2006-0059	Department of Education Youth and Family Services Funding	Referral
2006-0065	Resolution Concerning Stonington's Request for Shared Sewer Capacity	Referral
2006-0066	Resolution Concerning Parking for Central Hall	Referral

**c. Special Trust Fund Contributions****2006-0060 Special Trust Fund Contributions****Resolution - Consent****RESOLUTION ACCEPTING CONTRIBUTIONS TO SPECIAL TRUST FUNDS**

RESOLVED, that the Town Council hereby accepts contributions to the Town as follows:

Aileen Mulligan (in memory of Mildred Hastedt) - \$25.00 - Library Discretionary

Various Donations - \$5,606.64 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program

Noank Village Boatyard, Inc - \$300.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving

Various Donations - \$532.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program

**VII. COMMUNICATION REPORTS (Other than Committee Reports)**

- a. Town Councilors**
- b. Representative Town Meeting**
- c. Clerk of the Council**
- d. Town Manager**
- e. Town Attorney**

**VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- a. Community & Cultural Development - Chairman Scott**
- b. Economic Development - Chairman Bond**
- c. Education/Health & Social Services - Chairman Kolnaski**
- d. Environment & Recreation - Chairman Sheets**
- e. Finance - Chairman Wright**
- f. Personnel/Appointments/Rules - Chairman O'Beirne**
- g. Public Safety - Chairman Streeter**
- h. Public Works - Chairman Bartinik**
- i. Committee of the Whole - Mayor Watson**

**IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS****X. NEW BUSINESS****2006-0047 Chelsea Groton Foundation Grant - Tercentennial  
Legacy Playground****Referral****TERCENTENNIAL PLAYGROUND - CHELSEA GROTON FOUNDATION GRANT**

WHEREAS, the Town Council has authorized the solicitation and receipt of donations for the Tercentennial Legacy Playground, and

WHEREAS, the playground committee and the Groton Parks Foundation advise that the playground project may qualify for a grant from the Chelsea Groton Foundation, which was established to improve the quality of life in the area of Southeastern Connecticut, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Manager may apply for a grant of \$3,000 from the Chelsea Groton Foundation to go toward the funding of the Tercentennial Legacy Playground.

Legislative History

2/10/2006	Mayor	Referred	Town Council Finance Committee
2/23/2006	Mayor	Referred	Town Council Committee of the W
2/28/2006	Town Council Committee of the Whole	Recommended for a Resolution	

2006-0048

**Connecticut Municipal Consortium for Fiscal Responsibility**

Referral

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE CONNECTICUT MUNICIPAL CONSORTIUM FOR FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY**

WHEREAS, state interventions into traditionally local budgetary affairs have negatively impacted the delicate balance between a municipality's capacity to provide services and the local taxpayers' ability to pay for said services, and

WHEREAS, such interventions have effectively reduced the municipalities' ability to manage major components of a typical town budget, and

WHEREAS, the Council of Small Towns (COST), Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE), Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) and other municipal advocacy agencies have all traditionally called for repeal or reform of prevailing wage and binding arbitration laws that currently apply to and negatively impact the municipalities across Connecticut, and

WHEREAS, the state legislature in Connecticut continues to force new mandates upon the towns while reneging on its own statutory municipal aid commitments to said towns, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Groton Town Council joins with and supports the Connecticut Municipal Consortium for Fiscal Responsibility in its effort to bring about changes beneficial to the municipalities and taxpayers across Connecticut, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Groton Town Council endorses and supports the following policy positions:

- 1) To raise the cost thresholds under the prevailing wage statute from the current \$100,000/400,000 levels to at least the level of \$1,000,000,
- 2) To level the playing field in binding arbitration by allowing that an arbitrated contract settlement can be rejected by the local legislative body and thence to be sent back into negotiations, rather than directly into the last round of appellate review, and
- 3) Prohibiting new mandates upon the towns from the state, until the legislature fully meets the funding commitments that have already been made and should be executory.

Legislative History

2/15/2006	Mayor	Referred	Town Council Committee of the W
2/28/2006	Town Council Committee of the Whole	Recommended for a Resolution	

2006-0058

**Summer Food Service Program (2006)**

Referral

**RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A 2006 SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN IN GROTON**

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Agriculture provides funding through the Connecticut State Department of Education, Child Nutrition Programs, for a Summer Food Service Program for Children, and

WHEREAS, the Summer Food Service Program for Children promotes and provides good nutrition during the summer months when at-risk, low-income children are not receiving the benefits of the Federal School Breakfast/Lunch Programs through their schools, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Groton's Human Services Department has expressed the desire and demonstrated the ability to provide the required administration of Groton's Summer Food Service Program for Children, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Manager, Mark R. Oefinger, is authorized to enter into an Agreement with the Connecticut State Department of Education for the purpose of establishing and operating a Summer Food Service Program for Children within the Town of Groton during the months of June, July and August 2006 and sign claims for reimbursement, and be it further

RESOLVED, that in the absence or incapacity of the first designated individual (Town Manager Oefinger), the Town Finance Director, Salvatore M. Pandolfo, is designated to sign claims for reimbursement.

**Legislative History**

2/21/2006	Mayor	Referred	Town Council Finance Committee
2/23/2006	Mayor	Referred	Town Council Committee of the W
2/28/2006	Town Council Committee of the Whole	Recommended for a Resolution	

**2006-0059**

**Department of Education Youth and Family Services Funding**

**Referral**

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO APPLY TO THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR FYE 2007 YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES FUNDING

WHEREAS, continued short-term counseling, crisis intervention, group work and programs are needed for Groton youth and families, and

WHEREAS, funding is available from the State of Connecticut Department of Education to supplant a portion of the salaries of Groton Youth and Family Services Counselors who provide intervention and prevention services for at-risk Groton youth, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Manager, Mark R. Oefinger, is authorized to file an application with the State of Connecticut Department of Education (DOE) for FYE 07 youth services funding in an amount to be determined by the DOE and amend contractual agreements for such funding to ensure continuation of short-term counseling, crisis intervention, support programs and group work with Groton youth and families.

**Legislative History**

2/21/2006	Mayor	Referred	Town Council Finance Committee
2/23/2006	Mayor	Referred	Town Council Committee of the W
2/28/2006	Town Council Committee of the Whole	Recommended for a Resolution	

**2006-0065**

**Resolution Concerning Stonington's Request for Shared Sewer Capacity**

**Referral**

RESOLUTION CONCERNING A REQUEST FROM THE TOWN OF STONINGTON FOR SHARED SEWER CAPACITY IN GROTON

WHEREAS, The Town Council and the Groton WPCA have met with the Board of Selectmen of Stonington and the Stonington WPCA to discuss the needs of Stonington for shared sewage

processing capacity, and

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Works has reported to the Water Pollution Control Authority on the feasibility of taking at least one million gallons of wastewater daily from Stonington, and

WHEREAS, the recommendation of Groton's WPCA to the Town Council is "not to pursue any further discussions with Stonington due to concerns about Groton's sewer system capacity," now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council agrees to terminate the investigation of the feasibility of sharing Groton's sewer capacity with Stonington and to notify the First Selectman of Stonington of this decision.

**Legislative History**

2/28/2006      Town Council Committee of      Recommended for a  
the Whole      Resolution

2006-0066

**Resolution Concerning Parking for Central Hall**

**Referral**

**RESOLUTION CONCERNING PARKING FOR CENTRAL HALL**

WHEREAS, a substantial structure on West Main Street, Mystic, was destroyed by fire in March 2000, and

WHEREAS, intense public interest has been expressed in favor of the visual and commercial development of the property that was vacated by fire, and

WHEREAS, a developer is proposing a redevelopment plan that includes retail spaces and residential units, and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that any such development that is approved will include increased public access to the river side of the property, and

WHEREAS, residential units in such a development cannot be sold without adequate provision of parking spaces, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Groton owns a sewer pumping station on Gravel Street that abuts the property that is to be redeveloped, and

WHEREAS, the developer has asked for the Town Council's endorsement of the concept of the Town's leasing the northern portion of the sewer pump station property, to be used as partial fulfillment of the developer's residential parking requirement, and

WHEREAS, the Town Council previously, on March 2, 2004, approved a plan to lease the same property for the same reasons, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council endorses the concept of leasing a portion of the Gravel Street sewer pump station for the purposes stated above, subject to a further complete review and determination by the Town Council of the details of said lease.

**Legislative History**

2/28/2006      Town Council Committee of      Recommended for a  
the Whole      Resolution

**XI. OTHER BUSINESS**

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

